

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Eliza Symonds Bell, December 28, 1895, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Mrs. Alexander Melville Bell. Beinn Bhreagh, Victoria County, Cape Breton, N. S. Dec. 28th 1895. My dear Mrs. Bell:

Alec has received your telegram and wants to know what I have been writing you about him! I did not suppose any one would take what I said quite seriously. I merely meant to report Alec's first enthusiastic exclamations and show his conviction that the President was right. Of course I don't suppose he ever would go and shoulder a musket!

I return you your letters. Alec meant to write you himself, he was deeply touched by the thought of your sorrow, but writing seems to grow harder to him all the time. He has worked himself ill over the Horace Mann address and is just stuck on it, unable to do anything.

He gave a lecture at the Court-house last night on Mexico, and did very well in spite of feeling ill. We had to go up in a pouring rain, it is as warm as Washington, and we have not yet had what even Washingtonians would consider severe weather for more than a day at a time. Daisy has been skating two or three times, and enjoys it very much.

We expect to leave here about the 15th and the time seems very near. I think Alec will be quite as sorry to leave his Shakespeare class as anything. He enjoys studying Shakespeare with his five young ladies very much, and I think they enjoy it too. They have to take some trouble to attend it also as it is held either here or at Mrs. Kennan's and they have to walk a mile and a half to the nearest 2 place, Mrs. Kennan's.

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Daisy and I have just come in from church. It is Sunday now. We rowed up from the warehouse and found it pretty cold in spite of the bright sunshine. I have never been in a rowboat at this season of the year so much before, and I like it very much.

I am so sorry Mr. Bell has had a cold, but hope that he is better now. Please give him my love and with every good wish for the New Year and much love.

Affectionately your daughter, Mabel.